

Board meeting minutes

10/09/2019

Present: Mitch Thompson, Harlan Garbell (President), Suzanne Perry (Vice President), Jerry Smith, Christine Retkwa, Dave Guell (Secretary)

Absent: Meline Juarez, Seth Engman, Nick Haylund, Ellie Haylund

How do we recognize people who have gone above and beyond, since many of us volunteer a lot of time. Other than a financial gift, there could be an honorary dinner by board or public recognition in the newsletter or return to the activity of the old Humanist of the year award. To be discussed further at another time.

Last month's meeting minutes are approved pending a few typo corrections.

Finances

- No Treasurer report for today. The board needs to have a back-up person to have login information from the various software and bank accounts. As good managers of the organization it is a good idea to have a backup for this role.
- Harlan will contact Nick for all needed financial information that becomes part of the monthly financial report.

Finance Committee

- Committee agreed on quarterly basis to let membership know the status of our finances
- Budget process - year starts on June 1. Recommended to start putting numbers together in January 2020 for any activities and initiatives - to enable strategic planning
- Cash/Asset management - management of cash in an accessible place where it is insured and also earning interest. Noted that monthly expenses are estimated at \$2000.
- Dues increase - considering \$10 increase as a palatable amount. However, if done, it should be done in association with a stated purpose for having an increase (added value).
- Membership - related to dues: consider different rates - maybe a lower dues rate for greater-Minnesota members, as we try to expand our activities there (maybe add them to \$25 category)

Social Action

- HumanistsMN and Compassion and Choices presented well and did a good showing at MN House hearing about a month ago
 - Harlan attended Compassion and Choices meeting last week
- A team of several did the NAMI walk
- A number of HMN people went to ACLU breakfast
- Want to have postcard for legislators for community meeting for members to sign

- Looking at having a humanists coalition sponsored event with “Dying out loud” speaker David Warnock, as a collaborative effort. He does not have a scheduled date to come to Twin Cities. Will have as a topic at a meeting with coalition. Marcy hopes to send out a doodle to organize a meeting

Tech

Conversion to Wordpress making good progress

Committee is going to meet in a week or so

Dave is working on a manual for all the tech tools

HMN email address - not clear how to log in

Day of Reason

Suzanne found a likely speaker - from Americans for Separation for Church and State. Related to her LGBTQ issues, women’s reproductive rights, they may encourage endorsement and for groups advocating on those issues

Fundraising

Want to see about taking benefit of orgs that give money to org that holds events there. Mitch would look into this. It is possible that where existing our happy hours are being held participate Could hold a Fundraiser for Day of Reason

And could also hold pre Day of Reason reception at a place where will get that benefit

Membership drive

Will work on this soon. And invite Rebecca to join committee

G-Suite training - by Dave

Dave did a presentation going through his G suite slides. Yay to helping us operate together better! These slides will be in the new Training folder on our Google drive

Marcy shared access to the HumanistsMN Drive with Mitch and Jerry